

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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R 281353Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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STATE FOR CU/CP LEWIS AND CARSTONES

VIENNA FOR USIS AND RPO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJ: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: ALVIN AILEY

1. FINAL PERFORMANCE AILEY COMPANY BUDAPEST JUNE 27
DELIRIOUSLY RECEIVED BY CHEERING, STOMPING, SCREAMING
SRO AUDIENCE WHO KEPT COMPANY ON STAGE MORE THAN FORTY
MINUTES AFTER NORMAL CURTAIN AND COAXED TWO ENCORES OF
FINAL NUMBER. DANCERS OF BUDAPEST OPERA BALLET RUSHED
ON STAGE FROM WINGS EMBRACING AND KISSING THEIR AMERICAN
COUNTERPARTS. THE MANY FLORAL TRIBUTES RECEIVED DURING
THE PERFORMANCE WERE TOSSED FLOWER BY FLOWER TO THE

YSTERICAL AUDIENCE AND THEN THROWN BACK. ALL FOUR
PERFORMANCES DURING WEEK WERE SRO WITH EXCEPTIONALLY
FAVORABLE REVIEWS, SUSTAINED HEAVY APPLAUSE AND
GENERALLY COMPLETE SUCCESS.

2. SCENE IN FRONT OF THEATER LAST NIGHT ALSO ONE TO
REMEMBER AS ROWS OF BLACK GOVERNMENT LIMOUSINES
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DISCHARGED HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT AND PARTY OFFICIALS.

TEN BUSES BROUGHT OVER 400 TOURISTS FROM OTHER EE COUNTRIES, AND MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL DELEGATION FROM THE STATE VISIT OF MONGOLIAN HEAD OF STATE TSEDENBAL ALSO IN ATTENDANCE.

3. MILOSLAV KABELAC, COMPOSER WHO WROTE MUSIC FOR QUOTE STREAMS UNQUOTE, PROGRAM'S FIRST NUMBER, WAS AILEY'S GUEST AND TOOK BOWS WITH DANCERS AFTER HIS NUMBER.

4. IN ADDITION TO PERFORMANCE, AILEY AND LEADING DANCERS HELD DAILY LECTURES AND DEMONSTRATIONS FOR BUDAPEST OPERA BALLET COMPANY DURING THE MORNING ESTABLISHING A RAPPORT AND SUCCESS BEYOND ANYTHING EVER SEEN HERE. LEADERS OF BUDAPEST OPERA HOUSE ALREADY APPROACHING PAO ABOUT HOW PROGRAM OF COOPERATION CAN CONTINUE AND EXPAND.

5. ALL IN ALL, IT WAS A WEEK BUDAPEST DANCE LOVERS WILL LONG REMEMBER, AND ENTIRE VISIT SHOULD PROVE VALUABLE ICEBREAKER FOR FUTURE AMERICAN CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS. THE STORMY APPLAUSE NO DOUBT WAS MUSIC TO THE EARS OF THE AILEY COMPANY, BUT TO ONE PERSON AT THE THEATER THE SWEETEST TUNE OF ALL WAS THE VERY LAST WORDS SPOKEN AFTER THE THEATER WAS DARK. ON THE WAY OUT THE DOOR, THE DIRECTOR OF THE OPERA HOUSE SAID TO THE PAO QUOTE TELL YOUR STATE DEPARTMENT THEY CAN SEND US CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS LIKE THIS ANY TIME THEY WANT UNQUOTE.
PEDERSEN

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